

WIRELESS" COMPANIES AS COMMON CARRIERS

International Telegraphy Conference at Berlin Reaches Important Decision in Regard to Radiograms.

Coast Stations Must Receive and Transmit Telegrams, Without Distinction as to the System Employed.

Wireless telegraph companies are in the same class with other telegraph companies. They are common carriers and must, therefore, receive from any source and transmit to all points any dispatches offered.

Such is the conclusion reached by the Berlin International Wireless Telegraphy Conference, which was attended by Gen. A. W. Greely, U. S. A., and other representatives of the United States.

Germany, Great Britain, France, Russia, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Spain, and the United States participated in the Berlin conference.

Work of Congress. On August 14 the congress adopted a protocol of eight articles as groundwork of a general treaty, all of them being of minor interest except the following:

"Coast stations are obliged to receive and transmit telegrams going or returning from ships, without distinction as to the system of wireless telegraphy employed by the ships." Under this rule "radiograms," as wireless telegrams were termed at the conference, are to be placed in the category of merchandise, and radiograph corporations, as common carriers, compelled to co-operate in delivering them at their destination. Other sections of the protocol relate to definitions, to minor details and to extending the rules of the St. Petersburg telegraphic convention, to which the United States is not a party, to wireless communications.

The congress dealt solely with pacific conditions, recognizing that each nation would take care of its own wireless messages in time of war. In this connection it became known that Germany, as a war measure, was prepared to take care of her own coast by sending such powerful interference waves from Helgoland as would prevent any enemy from carrying on any communication in the North Sea, and that all the European powers were ready to exercise absolute control over all wireless stations within their own borders.

Aimed at Monopoly. The common carrier declaration, which is aimed against monopoly, was adopted at the instance of the American delegates, who were familiar with the United States statutes and Supreme Court decisions on that general principle, and was warmly espoused by all the delegates except those from Great Britain and Italy, who pleaded lack of authority in their instructions. It is significant that these are the only two countries wedded to the Marconi system.

At the opening of the sessions the United States delegation presented the following declaration, which virtually governed all subsequent proceedings, the whole conference taking no action which failed to conform to its provisions:

"The delegates from the United States desire to express in general terms their opinion as to the scope and extent of international action now advisable in formulating regulations for wireless telegraphy.

"Recognizing the inchoate state of the service of wireless telegraphy, it is our firm conviction that detailed regulations are impracticable, and that this conference should confine its action to the formulation of general resolutions, while embodying therein such principles as will insure the greatest advantages to the commerce and trade of the world, care should be taken to avoid interference with the development of wireless telegraphy.

As to Shore Stations.

"A broad distinction exists between shore stations, which are entirely within national jurisdiction, and ship stations on the high seas, beyond the plenary exercise of such control. Inasmuch as the interchange of ship signals under the international code is not obligatory, though recognized as commercially important, it seems to us inadvisable, for the present at least, to insist on the interchange of radiograms between ships on the high seas, especially in view of the impracticability of effectually enforcing such regulations.

"Finally, we are of the decided opinion that shore stations transacting any paid business should be required to accept from and deliver at suitably equipped ships and stations all wireless telegrams (radiograms) offered for receipt or transmission."

CHARLES J. ALMY'S FUNERAL.

The funeral of the late Charles J. Almy, who died yesterday at the Emergency Hospital, was held this afternoon at 3 o'clock, from the family residence, at 1019 Vermont Avenue. The services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Plummer, assistant pastor of Epiphany Church. The interment at Congressional Cemetery was private.

The pallbearers were John J. Chew, Archibald Hopkins, Dr. William Penn Compton, John C. Poor, Capt. William Hopkins, U. S. M. C., and Eugene B. Willis.

Pennsylvania Railroad to Niagara Falls.

A special train of parlor cars and coaches will leave Sixth and B Streets Station at 8 a. m. September 4, with Pennsylvania's next Personally Conducted Tour to Niagara Falls; \$10 for the round trip; tickets good for ten days. Consult agents for further information.

PORTO RICO'S LEPER COLONY A MENACE

Investigation Shows a Lack of Proper Management.

DEVELOPMENTS UNPLEASANT

Non-Leperous Patient Dies of Joy on Being Released From Cabras Island.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Sept. 3.—Jose Marrero, a non-leperous patient, who was liberated from the leper colony as a result of the recent investigation, has died of heart disease, superinduced by joy at his release.

The investigation into the leprosy scandal continues to produce unpleasant developments. The public report of the committee of the executive council investigating the matter will be made next week.

Bad State of Affairs.

A terrible state of affairs has been discovered on Cabras, or Goat, Island, on which the leper colony of Porto Rico is located, at the entrance to San Juan harbor.

It has been believed, until this discovery, that the leper colony has been conducted in a manner most creditable to all concerned. The insular government has been expending about \$10,000 a year for its maintenance and Director of Charities Brogan Hoff Osterhout, of Kingston, N. Y., has made flattering annual reports to Governor Hunt. The director went north a few weeks ago to remain until November, and Dr. Goenaga, superintendent of the insane asylum, was appointed acting director.

Chickens on Sale.

Dr. Goenaga first learned that the "practitioner," or assistant physician at the colony, Jose Aldrich, was bringing to San Juan for sale chickens raised by the lepers. Aldrich was promptly suspended, arrested on a criminal charge, and fined \$50.

Dr. Goenaga then personally proceeded to the colony, where he was horrified by what he saw and heard. He instantly suspended Dr. Fernandez Nater, a prominent native of San Juan and who was then physician in charge. Dr. Goenaga then made a written report to Acting Governor Hartzell as to why such summary action was taken and it was upon this report that the investigation was based.

Dr. Goenaga found dogs, goats, chickens, rabbits and pigs herded with the lepers, the chickens nesting in the "unclean beds." The patients were in a filthy condition, with no bathing facilities and most of them clad with a single partial covering of rags. The food supplies stood about exposed to corruption, and he refers to general conditions as extremely horrible.

Bought Provisions.

It was also ascertained that the cook went daily across the bay to Palo Seco to buy provisions, taking no precautions, and that paper currency has circulated freely among the lepers and has probably gone from them to all parts of the island.

One of the first reform steps taken by Acting Governor Hartzell was to send Dr. Hernandez, president of the superior board of health; Dr. Baez, the new practitioner, and Dr. Schirmer, insular veterinary inspector, to Cabras Island to destroy every living thing in the colony except the lepers.

There are now in the Cabras Island colony twenty-three lepers, and at least as many more, it is believed, are scattered throughout Porto Rico. It is hoped that within a year all the lepers of Porto Rico will be segregated at the colony.

NEW AUTOMOBILE LAW IN EFFECT SUNDAY

Commissioners Wish to Give Summer Tourists a Chance.

The District Commissioners have informed Major Sylvester that the new automobile regulations have again been postponed until Sunday, September 6, in accordance therewith the Superintendent of Police has issued orders to the police not to attempt to enforce the regulations until that date.

This is in accordance with the policy pursued by the Commissioners from the first, and carried out by the police, which aims to give all owners of horseless vehicles a fair chance, that no charge of persecution may be laid at the doors of the authorities. A special reason for this last postponement is the fact that numerous owners of automobiles have been out of the city for the summer and are expected home this week. It is not thought that it would be fair to these to cause their arrest and detention in a stationhouse. For the same reason Major Sylvester has ordered a thorough canvass of the city to ascertain if all have complied with the new law so as to avoid unnecessary arrests.

ROBBED IN THE NIGHT.

Charles F. Walter, of 59 DeFeves Street northwest, had \$36 in his trousers pocket when he retired night before last. When he got up in the morning he had nothing, some one having abstracted his money during the night. It is thought entrance to the room was effected by a duplicate key.

A Whole Day on the Battlefield of Gettysburg or at Pen Mar.

Via Pennsylvania Railroad. See the historic Gettysburg battlefield or enjoy a day on the Blue Ridge Mountains at Pen Mar. Special excursion via Pennsylvania Railroad, Sunday, September 6. Round trip tickets to either place, only \$1.75. Special train leaves Washington at 7:05 a. m. Returning leaves Pen Mar at 5:50 p. m., Gettysburg at 6:45 p. m.

KILLS BOSOM FRIEND, THEN TAKES OWN LIFE

Baltimore Hospital Scene of Double Tragedy.

BOTH WASHINGTON MEN

Aloysius T. Cavanaugh, While Temporarily Deranged, Shoots Michael F. Guiney and Himself.

While mentally unbalanced, Aloysius T. Cavanaugh, twenty-six years old, yesterday afternoon shot and killed Michael F. Guiney, thirty-two, his life-long friend and business partner, and then turned the pistol on himself and ended his life. The double tragedy occurred in St. Agnes' Hospital, Baltimore, where Mr. Cavanaugh has been taken three days previously as a patient.

It was on Monday that Mr. Guiney and Cavanaugh's father, Timothy Cavanaugh, a wealthy retired contractor, went to Baltimore with young Cavanaugh, and asked that he be admitted as a nervous patient. No hint was given of mental derangement, but it was noticed that Guiney did not like to leave Cavanaugh alone. Their relations were exceedingly cordial, Guiney occupying the same room as Cavanaugh. Yesterday Guiney returned to Washington to attend to a little business, but promised his sick friend to go back to Baltimore, a promise he was careful to keep.

Fired Fatal Shots.

In the afternoon both men left the hospital temporarily, and Cavanaugh returned first. It is supposed that during this absence he purchased the revolver with which the shooting was done. He seemed anxious for the return of Guiney, and as soon as the latter appeared the two went to their room. A few minutes later two shots rang out. The startled physicians ran to the room, to find Guiney in a chair, a bullet hole over the right temple, and Cavanaugh lying on the bed, the smoking revolver in his hand, and wounded in the same place. Guiney lived half an hour, and Cavanaugh more than two hours, but neither regained consciousness. The coroner's jury decided both deaths due to mental aberration on the part of Cavanaugh.

Mr. Guiney was the son of Patrick Guiney, a retired contractor, seventy years old, who lives at 47 K Street northwest. He leaves also a mother and two brothers, Aloysius Guiney, studying for the priesthood in the Jesuit Order, and now at Fordham College, New York, where this winter he assumes the chair of philosophy, and Timothy J. Guiney, a bricklayer, who lives at 26 K Street northeast. Guiney himself married Miss Minnie Shue, with whom and his two-year-old babe, he lived at 66 I Street northwest.

Families Closely Intimate.

Cavanaugh was the son of Timothy Cavanaugh, a wealthy retired railroad contractor, who during the years he did construction work for the Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroads, lived at 105 I Street northwest, but last spring moved to a handsome country place three miles from Washington Grove, Montgomery county, Md. The fathers were lifelong friends, and were associated in many business ventures. The similarity of the Christian names of both families indicates the degree of familiarity which existed.

The sons followed in the footsteps of the fathers in the matter of friendship, and some time ago became associated in the firm of Guiney, Jones & Cavanaugh, sewer contractors, who have constructed several sewers for the District. Only yesterday the firm was awarded the contract for the construction of section B of the B Street and New Jersey Avenue sewers, and it was on this matter that Guiney left his friend temporarily yesterday.

Relatives Prostrated.

The families of the dead men learned of the tragedy last night through a telegram sent young Mrs. Guiney, announcing the illness of her husband. Later she learned the truth, and she and Timothy Guiney and the elder Mr. Cavanaugh went to Baltimore, and today at noon brought back the bodies, which were turned over to an undertaker. So prostrated are both families by the tragedy that they were unable this morning to tell what funeral arrangements will be made, or even how long or to what extent Cavanaugh's mind has been affected. They are positive in their statements, however, that there was no knowledge of the serious character of his trouble, or any apprehension of such a tragic ending.

MURDER AND SUICIDE BY FORMER MAYOR'S SON

NEW YORK, Sept. 3.—Spurred by a woman who was his wife's dearest friend, and with whom he was infatuated, and threatened with exposure for the alleged embezzling of church funds, Henry Townsend Edson, son of former Mayor Franklin Edson, and brother of Dr. Cyrus Edson, the distinguished physician, shot and killed Mrs. Fannie Pullen and then blew his brains out in his apartment at 292 West Ninety-second Street yesterday. Edson's wife and his brother, Dr. David D. Edson, were in the room when he committed the double crime. Jealousy and financial troubles caused the acts.

TREASURY RECEIPTS.

The Treasury Wednesday received \$624,070 in national bank notes and redemption. The Government receipts from internal revenue were \$670,279; customs, \$1,104,405; miscellaneous, \$111,975; expenditures, \$1,720,000.

Cool, Captivating Cape May.

A three days' personally conducted excursion, via Pennsylvania Railroad, to attractive Cape May, Saturday, September 5. Tickets for round trip, including two days' board at the Stockton, Congress Hall, or Chalfonts, only \$10 from Washington. Detailed information of ticket agents.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM NEARBY STATES

MARYLAND.

ANNAPOLIS.

As a result of the recent disturbances between United States marines and certain citizens of Annapolis, Justice of the Peace Davis yesterday sentenced John Skoch to sixty days in jail and announced his intention of giving the full penalty of the law to all persons convicted before him of such assaults and disorder as have lately aroused the community.

The practice ship Chesapeake will go out of commission today and the officers who served on her during the midshipmen's cruise will resume duty at the Naval Academy.

Gen. Thomas Mumford, a Confederate veteran and who was an intimate friend and comrade in arms of Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson, is visiting his brother, Dr. William Mumford, in Annapolis. General Mumford attended the Virginia Military Institute with General Jackson and served with him during many of his memorable campaigns.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

A large audience gathered at Shantzer's Opera House, in Oakland, Saturday afternoon and evening to enjoy an "old fiddlers' contest." The contestants were divided into two classes, the first being contestants who were over fifty years of age.

Lavinia Smith, sister of C. G. Smith and Adam Smith, both prominent business men in Cumberland, committed suicide yesterday morning by drowning herself in the Potomac River. She walked into the river under the Blue Bridge which connects Cumberland with West Virginia. There were no persons near at the time except two small children, one of whom gave the alarm.

Harvey Smith was drowned yesterday where the Potomac River near where the Cumberland Valley Railroad crosses the stream, two miles below Williamsport, while wading to a fishpot in the middle of the stream.

A large number of persons attended the tournament yesterday afternoon at old St. Joseph's Church, near Cordova. Thirteen knights took part in the tilting. The judges were Dr. Charles H. Rose, Benjamin P. Parlett, and J. Locke Goldsborough.

Mrs. Katie Kale was married last evening at the Hotel Central, Hagerstown, to Thomas Brownlow, of Rochester, Mass., by the Rev. F. T. Hennicke. Mr. Brownlow was here on his vacation and met Mrs. Kale five days ago.

Dr. M. B. Stevens, State superintendent of education, made an address at the teachers' institute in Centerville Tuesday.

In Centerville William MacAllen had a rib fractured and was badly cut on the arm and James MacAllen received a severe scalp wound by a fall from the scaffolding of the building they are constructing for the Centerville National Bank.

HOW COULD HE TELL THESE CO-EDS THIS?

Dean Tufts Says They Are Older Than Men.

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.—"I knew they would do it," wept a co-ed at the University of Chicago.

"So did I, but what could you do?" sighed another.

"Oh, dear," mourned all the others. Now they know why the registrar asked every woman student to give her age when she entered the summer school at the university.

Dean Tufts, at this moment the most unpopular man at the university, and perhaps in Chicago, let it all out. Women students are older than men. Dean Tufts got right up in chapel and read it from the book. Women students average twenty-eight years, men twenty-five years old, he said.

"I do not believe it," whispered a co-ed.

He further stated that almost all the women had been born on farms.

TWO PERSONS CONVICTED IN WILLOW TREE CASES

Two more cases growing out of the riot in Willow Tree Alley on Monday afternoon were heard in the Police Court yesterday and heavy penalties imposed in each. Charles Edwards and Noble Allen answered to the charge of assault on Frederick Springmann, who went to Policeman Fletcher's assistance when he was mobbed by the residents of the alley. Mr. Springmann, with numerous marks and gashes on his forehead and face, appeared in court, and, although unable to identify the men, said he had seen them in the crowd. Other witnesses testified that the prisoners kicked Springmann while he was on the ground and in other ways assaulted him. Judge Scott imposed a penalty of \$100 fine or ten months in the workhouse as an alternative.

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VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND.

Timothy Augustus Madden is now a prisoner in the city jail in Richmond, and has to appear before the grand jury on the charge of robbing the postoffice at Columbia, Va. He hopes, however, soon to go as a missionary to work among the leper colony in the Fiji Islands. Madden has been a sailor. In the course of his many voyages he went to the Fiji Islands and became interested in the lepers he saw there. Since he has been behind prison bars he has thought much of the lepers, and has even procured all the literature he could find on the subject and studied it.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Anderson Finch, a negro, was hanged at Boydton yesterday for an attempt at assault on Mrs. C. A. Geophegan, who lives at Chase City, Va. "Doc" Bacon, another negro, was condemned to die with Finch for complicity in the crime, but was reprieved by the governor until September 4 so as to permit of further examination into the case.

Mary Ashley Bell and Dr. Clifton Meredith Miller were married at 11 o'clock yesterday morning in Old Lyle Church, Williamsburg, Pluvanna county. The bride, who is a social favorite in Richmond, has a beautiful voice and has sung in prominent churches.

Stewart, the ten-year-old son of James R. Taylor, of Staunton, was knocked down and badly bruised and cut yesterday morning by being thrown from his horse. He was unconscious for some time. A street car struck the horse and knocked it down. Stewart fell into an excavation in the street, with the horse on top of him.

Marie Rountree, the daughter of William Rountree, of Portsmouth, and Edward Coles, superintendent of lines of the Southern Bell Telephone Company in Portsmouth, were married yesterday afternoon.

Private Valentine, who escaped from the guardhouse at Fort Monroe Sunday night, has returned and surrendered. He declared that he simply wanted to take "a little excursion" and had no intention of leaving this section for good. He has been locked up and will be tried by court-martial for escaping from prison.

E. C. Woodville, a prominent farmer of Orange county, died a few days ago of rheumatism, aged sixty-five years. He was a gallant Confederate soldier and a good citizen. His widow, eleven children and four brothers survive him.

George W. House, a farmer, seventy-five years old, and Mrs. Martha Sherman, thirty-three years old, were married in Bristol yesterday. Mr. House has buried four wives and is now a happy bridegroom for the fifth time.

Mrs. Salie Doswell, widow of Thomas W. Doswell, of Bullfield, Hanover county, Va., died yesterday afternoon.

MOURNED AS A HERO, SOLDIER IS A CONVICT

Father, After Five Years, Learns the Truth.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 3.—After being mourned five years as dead by an old mother and father, who thought he had fallen on the battlefield in the Spanish-American war, Earl McGregor, twenty-three years old, has been found in the Ohio penitentiary at Columbus, where he is serving a ten-year sentence for a robbery of which he is believed to be innocent.

He has been in prison three years under an assumed name, and not until his health failed, and he was made aware that he could not outlive his sentence, did he make his whereabouts known.

His father, who lives at 1306 Carson Street, has been informed of his son's misfortune, but his mother still believes that her boy is dead, killed, as she thinks, fighting for his country.

POSTOFFICE CLERKS ORGANIZE LOCAL BRANCH

Permanent organization of a local branch of the United States Association of Postoffice Clerks was effected last night at a meeting held in Scottish Rite Temple. E. A. Heilig was elected president; J. B. Corridon, secretary, and W. W. Mills, treasurer.

The objects of the association are to promote fraternalism, uphold the civil service rules, and to procure a more equitable arrangement of wages and hours of labor. It has been recognized by the leading officials of the Postoffice Department.

The next meeting of the association will be held on September 13 in a hall at Twelfth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, when addresses will be made by delegates returning from the national convention at Nashville, Tenn.

WOMAN AIDS PRISONER TO ESCAPE FROM JAIL

Opened Door of Rockville Lock-Up in Jailer's Absence.

ROCKVILLE, Md., Sept. 3.—Charles Bowen, a negro, who was held in jail here to await the action of the grand jury at the coming November term of court upon a charge of selling intoxicating liquor, escaped from confinement about noon yesterday. It appears that a woman and a man, both negroes, went to the jail and visited Bowen in his cell. In some unaccountable way it seems that as the woman was preparing to leave, and in the absence of the keeper at the time, she managed to get the key hanging outside of the main door of the hall leading to the cells and opened the door. As the door was pushed open the noise made thereby attracted the jailer's assistant to the scene, but too late, for the prisoner ran out the front door before he could be stopped.

The two visitors also made good their escape from the jail at the time. They were followed, however, and arrested. They gave their names as Katie Lucas and William Coleman. Coleman claims that he had nothing to do with the release, nor did he know of it until after the woman had freed Bowen. He is, however, a supposed friend of Bowen. Bowen is still at large. The visiting negroes are from Washington, as is also Bowen.

The directors of the Agricultural Society met yesterday and gave out the following statement of receipts of the recent Montgomery County Agricultural Society Fair: From privileges, \$1,110; race entries, \$763.50; high jump entries, \$26; poultry entries, \$398.75; stall rents, \$22; exhibitors' tickets, \$234; grand stand tickets, \$452; admission tickets, \$4,166.25; parcel room, \$25.10; special race purse, \$250; race purses returned, \$83.75; membership tickets, \$194; sales of feed, \$54.47; sales of stone, \$13.50; advertisements in pamphlet, \$138.50; fine collected National Trotting Association, \$32; total cash receipts, \$7,963.82. Still due: From Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, \$1,067.50; State of Maryland, \$833.33; advertisements in pamphlet, \$77; total receipts when collected, \$9,941.55.

Annie V. Duffin has filed suit in the county court for a divorce from her husband, Nathan T. Duffin, upon the ground of desertion.

Charles E. Parsons, aged twenty-four years, and Olive A. Tolson, aged twenty-one years, both of Forest Glen, obtained a marriage license here yesterday. They expect to be married on Saturday next at Forest Glen by the Rev. Dr. Harris.

MERCEDES LEADS BOATS.

PARIS, Sept. 3.—Twenty automobile boats completed the fourth stage in the race on the Seine, covering the distance between Rouen and Caudebec, forty-one and one-half miles, in less than six hours. The Mercedes and Flora were again in first and second, respectively.

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